



NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD & COMMUNITY MEETING

DRAFT REMOVAL ACTION WORKPLAN PIONEER VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: December 10, 2003 to January 16, 2004

PUBLIC MEETING: January 7, 2004, 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

At The Ethel Pope Auditorium

WHAT'S BEING PROPOSED?

The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) invites public comment on the draft Removal Action Workplan (RAW) for Santa Maria Joint Union High School District's (SMJUHSD) Pioneer Valley High School under construction on N. Fremont Street, Santa Maria, CA 93454.

An environmental investigation was conducted under the oversight of the DTSC. Low levels of pesticides were detected in soil samples in the future tennis courts area. The pesticide levels found in the soil pose no immediate health risk. The draft Removal Action Workplan proposes the removal and offsite disposal of approximately 5,000 cubic yards (280 truckloads) of pesticide contaminated soil from the site. DTSC has prepared a draft Notice of Exemption (NOE) for this project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act. The NOE states that the project will not have a significant negative effect on the environment because of the relatively short project duration, and the controlled manner in which contaminated soils will be excavated, loaded onto trucks and taken offsite for disposal.

HOW DO I PARTICIPATE?

The interested community has the opportunity to learn more about the project and submit comments to DTSC about the proposed soil removal action during the **public comment period**, which begins on **December 10, 2003** and ends on **January 16, 2004**. Your participation is encouraged. Comments concerning the draft Removal Action Workplan may be submitted in writing by **January 16, 2004** to: Ms. Laura Zaremba, Project Manager, DTSC, 1011 N. Grandview Ave., Glendale, CA 91201, or Lzaremba@dtsc.ca.gov.

A **community meeting** will be held on Wednesday, January 7, 2004 at the Ethel Pope Auditorium, 901 S. Broadway, Santa Maria, CA 93454.

WHERE DO I GET MORE INFORMATION?

A copy of the draft Removal Action Workplan and other project documents are available at two Santa Maria locations: Santa Maria Public Library, 420 S. Broadway; and School District offices, 2560 Skyway Drive. Also, the full Administrative Records for this project are available for review during office hours at the DTSC Regional Records Office in Glendale; contact Jne Barrio at (818) 551-2886. For more information about the DTSC, please visit our website at www.dtsc.ca.gov.

CONTACT:

If you have any questions or wish to discuss the project, please call Maya Akula, DTSC Public Participation Specialist at (818) 551-2917, or Mayakula@dtsc.ca.gov. *Si desea información en español, comuníquese con: Eloy Florez, Especialista en Participación Pública de el DTSC, al (818) 551-2875.* SMJUHSD Contact: Diane Bennett, Assistant Superintendent of Business, (805) 922-4573 ext. 4401.